

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 12-13 are currently pending. Claims 1 and 12 stand rejected. Claims 2-6 and 13 have been indicated as containing allowable matter, but are objected to for their dependence on a rejected base claim. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to incorporate matter deemed allowable, specifically the subject matter of claims 2 and 13 respectively. Claims 3 and 4 have been amended to depend from claim 1. Claims 2 and 13 have been cancelled. New claims 22-26 have been added. Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of these amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Rejection of Claims 12 and 13 Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 12 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as drawn to non-statutory subject matter, specifically for reciting a computer program without an accompanying computer readable medium. Claim 12 has been amended to recite a computer readable medium encoded with computer executable instructions. Claim 13 has been cancelled. It is thus

respectfully requested that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

II. Rejection of Claims 1 and 12 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,544,257 to Bellegarda et al. (hereinafter: Bellegarda). Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 2-6 and 13 contain allowable matter. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2, and claim 12 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 13. It is thus submitted that claims 1 and 12 should be allowable over Bellegarda, and the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 12 and the removal of the objection to claims 3-6 is respectfully requested.

III. New Claims 22-26

Claims 22-26 have been added to represent the subject matter of claim 5. Specifically, claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form as claim 22, incorporating all of the subject matter of claim 1. It is thus respectfully submitted that claim 22 should be allowable. Each of claims 23-26

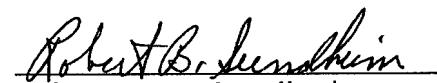
depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 22, and should also be allowable at least for their dependence on claim 22.

IV. Conclusion

In light of the amendment and remarks above, it is submitted that claims 1, 3-6, 12, and 22-26 are now in condition for allowance. Allowance of the subject application is thus respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,



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